

the scattered growth of Pitch Pine (*Pinus rigida*) which covers the barrens and reaches a height of from fifteen to twenty-five feet we found a group of four Crossbills (*Loxia curvirostra minor*) which we watched for ten minutes or more. They appeared to be two adults and two young in juvenal plumage. One certainly was and we assumed that the other was also; it kept up a continual calling as if to bring the old birds but we did not notice them feed it.

They were gleaning on the new growth of the pines, quite indifferent to our near approach, and seemed to be eating the pinkish terminal buds, frequently cutting them off entirely or in part. We readily approached within thirty feet of them.—CHARLES J. PENNOCK, *Kennett Square, Pa.*

**Lapland Longspur** (*Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*) in **Delaware**.—The occurrence of this species on the Atlantic coast plain more frequently than had formerly been supposed, was suggested by Mr. R. F. Miller, in *Cassinia* for 1906, p. 63, and the same conclusion was presented to me when these birds were found last winter near Delaware City, Del., as noted in 'The Auk' for January, 1911, p. 114, a subsequent trip to the same marshes, on December 19, 1910, resulted in finding a number of Longspurs and five specimens were secured.

On November 9, 1911, an examination of the same ground discovered Shore Larks (*Otocoris a. alpestris*) fairly abundant; this being the species with which the Longspurs had been found associated the previous winter, but no Longspurs were recognized. On February 1, 1912, with snow and ice covering most of the same marsh, I made a lengthy search for Longspurs. Flocks of Shore Larks were found and followed for several hours. They were in bunches of 4, 8, 12 and 25. In the earlier part of the day the ice and snow-crust were brittle, walking was noisy and the birds not easily approached at close quarters, but by afternoon the sun shone out, the noise was lessened and the birds were getting more food and showed less wariness. The smaller flocks contained no Longspurs. A lone bird that was flushed and gave a two-note rather soft, sweet call and flew high and wild, was thought to be a Longspur, but not until the largest flock was closely followed for an hour or more and carefully examined repeatedly, did I suspect it contained other than Shore Larks. Finally one bird apparently smaller was seen to fly off with the flock and later when they were flushed, on a near approach, the single remaining bird was shot and proved to be a Longspur, adult female. While I think there were few if any other Longspurs with these Shore Larks, the fact of again finding even one of the rarer species in the locality would perhaps indicate their rather regular occurrence.

On bare ground it was impossible to distinguish the two species at a distance of twenty-five yards. On the snow or as they arose singly the distinguishing marks of the Shore Larks could be recognized but when the alarm was given and several or all arose together it was not possible to determine definitely the presence of Longspurs among a large number of Shore Larks.

These notes would seem to suggest that a close scrutiny of the larger flocks of Shore Larks would show a more frequent visitation of the Long-spurs than is generally supposed.—C. J. PENNOCK, *Kennett Square, Pa.*

**White-throated Sparrow in Idaho.**—On November 2 last, a pet cat brought in a fine specimen of White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) which, on skinning, proved to be an immature male. The bird was in good plumage, the white throat and yellow spot before the eyes making its identification absolute, and fortunately the skin was practically undamaged.

So far as I can learn, this is the first record of the White-throated Sparrow in Idaho.—L. E. WYMAN, *Nampa, Idaho.*

**Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) in Minnesota.**—On May 2, 1893, I shot an adult female near Madison, Lac Qui Parle Co., in the southwestern part of the state. The skin remained unidentified in my collection until September, 1910, when it was sent to the Biological Survey at Washington where it was examined by Mr. Harry C. Oberholser.—ALBERT LANO, *Excelsior, Minn.*

**Lawrence's Warbler (*Vermivora lawrencei*) in Chester County, Pa.**—The Serpentine barrens of the southern part of Chester County, Pa., are interesting on account of the presence of Prairie Warblers (*Dendroica discolor*) among the scattered pine growth, this being apparently the only spot in the county where this species breeds. On June 16, 1911, John D. Carter and myself found them quite abundant and about two miles beyond the barrens in deciduous woods not more than 250 feet above sea level we were surprised to find a Chestnut-sided Warbler (*D. pensylvanica*) busily engaged in searching for food.

Next day about three miles west of the barrens and close to Octoraro Creek on a steep hilltop 300 feet elevation we had a clear and continued view of a Lawrence's Warbler (*Vermivora lawrencei*). There was a clearing grown up to deciduous new growth, twenty to thirty feet high. As we entered by a wood road the bird flew up into a large solitary tree by the roadway and we had a clear view of it at a distance of about thirty feet. It remained on the same perch at least three minutes, and sang four or five times — two single high-pitched fine spun inspirations and then three or four shorter notes rapidly uttered to give a trill effect "Tse-e-e-e', Tse-e-e-e-e, Tsē Tsē Tsē Tsē." The markings of the head were identical with those of an adult male *V. chrysoptera*, the body and wing markings those of *V. pinus*, the combination appearing quite different from the figure in Chapman's "Warblers of North America" but identical with the plate in the Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia for 1874.—CHARLES J. PENNOCK, *Kennett Square, Pa.*

**A Palm Warbler in winter at Boston, Mass.**—In the Arnold Arboretum at Jamaica Plain a Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum pal-*